National Commission on Farmers

*72. SHRI DEVDAS APTE:
SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any action plan prepared by Government on the suggestion of the National Commission on Farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are planning to consider the NCF suggestion about the minimum support price for the farmer products and has also considered its impact on the inflation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) On receipt of the final report of the National Commission on Farmers, Government have taken steps for expeditious examination of the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers and other Reports submitted by the Commission. A Conference of State Ministers of Agriculture and Allied Sectors was held on 22nd December 2006 to get the views of State Governments on the recommendations. The Ministries/Departments concerned have also been consulted. However, a number of programmes and schemes on the lines of the recommendations of the Commission are already under implementation by Government.

(c) and (d) A system of ensuring remunerative and stable prices to farmers is important for increasing agricultural production and productivity in view of fluctuations in prices of agricultural produce. Minimum Support Prices for major agricultural products numbering 25 at present are fixed by the Government, each year, after taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and keeping in view the interests of the producers and the consumers. By and large, the present system is working satisfactorily and Government is not planning to change the same for the present.